2,000 soldiers with a surveying party, along the line

of the Northern Pacific Raffroad, there seems to be

little for the army to do. He says there are troops

on the frontier and elsewhere, in charge of forts

fortifications, &c., where only an ordnance sergeant

with a file of men are needed to take care of the

Mr Wheeler is also Chairman of the Commerce

Committee, and will take strong ground against

what he calls the extravagance which has hereto-

fore characterized the river and harbor appropria-

tions. The amount estimated for the next year is

about \$15,000,000, but the Chairman says he shall

try to reduce it to a fourth or a fifth of that sum.

As an instance of the useless expenditure of money,

which he visited last Summer. The last ap-

prepriation for that harbor was \$100,000, and yet

but one vessel arrived at Superior City during the

previous year. Mr. Wheeler is confident that the

the additional revenue now demanded will be un-

necessary. He thinks the force of officers and clerks

in the departments may be largely reduced, and

that the Indian service can be reformed. He favors

the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War De-

partment, and says that he is satisfied that the

service would be greatly improved and the Indians

THE SENATORIAL CANVASS IN VIRGINIA.

AT LEAST TEN CANDIDATES IN THE FIELD-COL, R.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.- The Senatorial contest in

Virginia has so far advanced as to disclose the origi-

nal strength of the leading candidates. There are

131 Conservative members of the Legislature, and

as all will go into cancus, 66 votes are necessary to a

nomination. Col. Robert E. Withers, now Lieuten-

ant-Governor, leads in the race with about 28 or 30

votes; the Hon. R. M. T. Hunter has some 24 or 25

votes; the Hon, John Goode has about 20 votes;

ex-Gov. Walker, 12 to 15; the Hon. James

Barbour nearly an equal number, and the remainder

are either divided up among T. S. Bocock, Alex. H.

H. Stuart, Judge Joseph Christian, Mr. Flournoy,

Judge Robt. Ould, and other aspirants, or have not

yet declared their preferences. There appears to be

a marked tendency to concentration upon Messrs.

Withers and Hunter, as in addition to their original

strength they are the second choice of many mem-

bers, and it is now believed that the race will lie

between these two. The result cannot yet be pre-

Mr. Hunter is well known by his long service in

the United States Senate, and by his address at

Tammany Hall in 1872 in favor of Mr. Greeley, and

his leading friends say that, if elected, this speech

for the Liberal cause will furnish the principles by

which his Senatorial course will be guided. He is

64 years of age, and the point is made by his op-

ponents that all the old politicians should be

dropped. Col. Withers made his first prominent ap-

pearance in politics in 1868, as the Democratic can-

didate for Governor, in opposition to negro suffrage

and in 1869 was opposed to the "new move

State Convention, held at Richmond, the

instructions to the Virginia delegation to vote for

Horace Greeley, which were offered by Gen. Kemper.

in the struggle for the nomination for Governor,

Col. Withers was defeated by Gen. Kemper and was

subsequently nominated for the office of Lieutenant

Governor. Gen. Wm. Mahone, who it was supposed

would take an active part in the contest has, so far,

taken no special part, and his great influence is

of locality enters largely into the contest, and it is

generally conceded that the new Senator should

come from the east as both the present Senators are

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Friday, Jan. 2, 1874. The vacancy in the office of the First Deputy Commis

ioner of Internal Revenue, caused by the death of Gen

Sweet will be filled by the President, it being the only

Deputy Commissionership appointed by the President

rules governing Civil Service promotions by competitive

examination. Mr. Rogers of Pennsylvania, Second Dep-

nty Commissioner, is an applicant for the position, and

nty Commissioner, is an applicant for the position, and is strongly recommended for the position by Commissioner Douglass. Should the President adhere to the stand he took in the Philadelphia Postmastership, when he announced that he would carry out the sprit of the Cavil Service rules by filling the office by promotion, providing the applicant for such promotion about possess the necessary qualifications, the chances of Mr. Rogers are good. This rule he carried out in the office of the Internal Revenue Supervisor for New-York by appointing Mr. Hawley to the position in place of Mr. Dutcher, who reskined. The West, however, will make a depand for the position of First Deputy, and this will probably occasion a sharp contest. Many from that section will recommend William O. Avery of Hilmois, now chief clerk of the Bureau, for the position.

Friends of Attorney-General Williams, who are con

zant of the facts, say that it is not true that Marsh

Britton of Arkansas was appointed and his name sent to

the Senate without a protest from the Attorney-General,

who was at the time in possession of damaging fact

against the candidate, but that Mr. Williams was always

against the candidate, but that Mr. Willams was always averse to Britton's appointment. It is further said that after the nomination was made and in possession of the Judiciary Committee, the Attorney-General sent to the Committee reports and papers, upon which Britton's nomination was rejected by the Senate. If the Judiciary Committee, in connection with the inquiry over the nomination for Culef Justice, investigate the course of Judge Williams in the matter of the Arkansas officials, it is said that he will be able to show that he did everything possible to reform the abuses in that State.

In the dispatch telegraphed last Friday night, relative

to the award of premiums for designs for a new built ing for the library of Congress, the name of Adolph E. Alexander of Boston was mentioned as having received the second prize. The name should have been Adolph E. Melander.

Melander.

The remains of Gen. Sweet left here to-night for

Chicago, in charge of W. O. Avery, Chief Clerk, and John B. Taylor, Chief of the Statistical Division of the

An appropriation by Congress of nearly \$2,000,000 in

gold will be required in satisfaction of the claims al

lowed by the late United States and British Commis-

IMPORTERS' TROUBLES.

THE CASE OF JORDAN, MARSH & CO .- THE WORK O

A CONFIDENTIAL CLERK.

Boston, Jan. 2 .- in the United States Dis

trict Court to-day Judge Lowell made the following or

der:

N. N. Bingham, complainant, agt. Jordan, Marsh & Co.—It is ordered that only such of the books and papers seized in this case are to be examined and retained by the Collector of Customs and the officers appointed by him to inspect the same as relate to the frauds charged in the complaint on file, excepting that the books and papers seized may be examined so far as may be necessary to ascertain whether or not they relate to said charges, and in this last examination the said Jordan, Marsh & Co. have leave to attend the examination by an atterney-at-law of this Court, to be appointed and paid by them, and to be approved by the Court if they shall be so advised, and until, and subject to the further order of the Court, and that the United States may be represented in like manner.

The Bosion Kerald's Washington correspondent telegraphs that Supervising Special Agent Mudge denies

graphs that Supervising Special Agent Mudge denies

that Jackson, the confidential clerk of Jordan, Marsh A

Co., was in the employ of the United States Government.

There is no doubt, however, that he furnished the infer

mation to his brother, H. S. Jackson, in New-York, in the

office of one of the Treasury special agents, and has been

a principal mover in the case. The Treasury officials say

and confirmed by the Scuate; hence, it is outside of the

from the western part of the State.

upon which Gov. Walker was elected,

also opposed, in the Conservative

E. WITHERS AND THE HON. R. M. T. HUNTER

THE PRINCIPAL CONTESTANTS-THE STRENGTI

saved from the rascality of sharpers.

OF THE VARIOUS ASPIRANTS.

Mr. Wheeler cites the barbor of Superior City, Wis

NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1874.

MEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE, SATURDAY, LANGARY 3, 1874.

WASHINGTON.

THE COST OF THE LAST PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN.

NEARLY 3,000,000 ENVELOPES PAID FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT AND USED FOR POLITICAL PUR-POSES-DEPARTMENT CLERKS DETAILED TO ASSIST THE WORK-ILLEGAL FRANKING OF SPEECIES AND DOCUMENTS.

INV TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE,

WASHINGTON. Jan. 2.-It having been discovered how much stationery Senators and Senate Committees use during a short session of Congress, it may also be interesting to know some of the items of cost to the United States Government to conduct the last Presidential campaign. It may be remembered that the Senate folding-room was, during about four months of 1872, converted into a mill for the folding and mailing of campaign documents. Tirree independent establishments were set up-the Republican, Laberal Republican, and Democratic; but as the first named had the most money, the number of documents the Republicans sent out exceeded many fold these sent out by the other two Committees The report of the Secretary of the Senate on the expenditure of the contingent fund of the Senate. recently made, shows how much of this campaign material the Government was made to pay for.

From the first of July to the first of November, 1872, when Congress was not in session, there were purchased for the use of the Scuate folding-room, 2,700, 960 speech envelopes, at a cost of \$6,090, and these were in addition to the 445,100 envelopes furnished to Senators and to Committees. The number of "speeches" for the folding of which the Government paid during the same time, was 2,204,000, and the cost of this work was \$2,285 05. The pay-roll of the folding-room during the same time was \$2,965. The amount of salary paid to Department clerks during the same time, of whom from 20 to 30 were detailed to direct documents, etc., is not given in the report from which these figures are taken. During the same time, there was used in the folding rooms, 185 buckets of paste, costing \$140 25; 1,457 5-4 pounds of twine, costing \$449.85; 326 reams of wrapping paper, coating \$1,228 18; and 22 paste-brashes costing \$4. To arrive at the exact cost to the Goverument of this campaign document distribution the postage on the 3,000,000 documents ought to be added, and it may be remarked that as the documents were not speeches made in Congress, their franking was illegal and the franks themselves

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE EXPENDITURES. SPECIMENS OF THE VOCCHERS FOR THE EXPENDI-TURE OF THE CONTINGENT FUND-A PAIR OF HOESES BOUGHT FOR SOMEBODY'S CARRIAGE-

INV TRUBGRAFE TO THE TRIBUNE. Washington, Jan. 2.-Some of the vonchers for

the expenditure of the contingent fund of the Department of J stice have been discovered, and the following are selected as specimens: The \$1,600 handaulet was paid for in January, 1872. The next voucher in chronological order was as follows:

One pair stiteaed pole straps and gold slip buckle, \$8: new slip lining in landaulet, \$45 75; painting and varnishing, \$42 56. Other similar items in the same bill making the whole amount \$211 12.

The following is the vencher for the carriage

Particular attention paid to orders. Samuel Coldens, Joseph Kantinan, Baltimore, July 29,

The U.S. Government, bought of Cobbens & Kaufman, dealers in saddle, driving, and draft borses, No. 1 North Pace-st. near Baltimore, July 24.

To one pair bay horses ... Received payment, Conmans & Kaufman. Then comes the harness-maker's bill; A Latz, jr , & Bro., No. 497 Pennsylvania-ave., Sept.

Other items in same bill make the amount \$286.

The last two vouchers are for repairs of carriage: United States Department of Justice, to A. J. Joyce & brown cloth and scanning and fastening laces, two new teather curtains, cloth-haed, two new carpet-rugs, nev et new silk curtains, new cover dash, two new oil car-

One new extra driving cushion, \$5. Painting and varnishing carriage, \$55, and other Hums, making in all \$415.50.

A J Jayre. Dec. 25, 1872 to painting and variishing landsmirt. \$50, and other Hems, making the bill \$251.

pets, new covers of glass frames, and new slip covers

THE CASE OF GEN. HOWARD.

BELIEF THAT A COURT OF INQUIRY WILL BE OR DERED-THE GENERAL'S PRIENDS BITTERLY DE-NOUNCE THE WAR DEPARTMENT FOR ITS ACTION -CLAIM THAT HE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE

ACTS OF SUBORDINATES.

DEY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRILLINE.] Washington, Jan. 2.—The Military Committee of the House, which has considered the subject of the charges against Gen. Howard, made by the War Department, have not yet decided by a vote what course to recommend to the House. A canvass of the members, however, leads to the belief that the Committee will report a resolution requiring the General of the Army to conwene a court of inquiry, composed of army officers, and that all the records and papers will be turned over to that court. The friends of Gen. Howard are very bitter against the War Department on account of the treatment of this officer, and allege that it is a conspiracy on the part of the regular army ring to get rid of Gen. Howard, who was promoted over them. They say that it is a second Bazaine affair, and that Gen. Howard is to be tried for what his subordinates did; also, that it is the first time that an officer was ever held accountable for moneys improperly used by officers who held commissions under him. To establish the assertion as to the practice, the case of Paymaster Hodge is cited. He stole from the funds of the Government nearly half a million of dollars; he was tried and punished; but Gen. Brice, the Paymaster-General, was never molested. nor were any charges ever preferred against him, although he was, as is claimed, as responsible as tien. Howard for the acts of his subordinates. Other cases are cited as having occurred in the Quartermaster-General's and other military offices and also in the Civil Departments of the Govern-The General's friends say that he will be sbundantly able to show any committee or court that he was not responsible for the large deficit in the accounts of the Freedmen's Bureau.

REDUCING EXPENDITURES.

THE ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL NEARLY COMPLETED THE ESTIMATES LARGELY REDUCED -EXTRAV-AGANCE OF RIVER AND HARBOR APPROPRIA-TIONS HERETOFORE MADE-REPRESENTATIVE WHEELER CONFIDENT THAT ADDITIONAL REVE-NUE WILL BE UNNECESSARY.

INV TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 .- Mr. Wheeler of the House Appropriations Committee hopes to be able to present the Army bill, of which he has charge, to the Bouse on Monday. A final meeting of the Committee, for the purpose of finishing the bill, will be held tomorrow. Mr. Wheeler spent the whole of to-day in the War Department in consultation with the Secretary He manifests a commendable spirit in reducing the estimates for his Department. It is shown by the records that the army, at the present time, is full an the basis of the 20,000 maximum, and that, by dis sharges, deaths, and descrition, about 10,000 men yearly leave the service. Mr. Wheeler proposes to | that but for the honesty of H. S. Jackson, the amount

for which the firm is liable to the Government would reduce the basis to 25,000, but not to discharge any, and to recruit only 5,000 a year, which in one year will produce the required reduction. He does not propose to interfere with the officers of the line or staff, but it is probable that when his appropriation bill comes before the House there will be a strong effort made to dispense with some of the officers, who are more costly than the soldiers. Mr. Wheeler thinks the army is larger than it needs to be in time of peace. He says that if the Government can send

have been much larger than it is. Petitions are in circulation in Boston asking Congres to repeal the law providing for the distribution of fines

and forfeitures to informers and others, and for the seizure of books, papers, and invoices in cases of alleged frauds upon the Customs.

THE VIRGINIUS.

THE REPORTED DEMANDS BY SPAIN.

O INTELLIGENCE OF THE DEMANDS RECEIVED AT WASHINGTON-WHAT COURSE OUR GOVERNMENT WILL PURSUE IF A BILL OF DAMAGES BE PRE-SUNTED-OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE-THE CASE

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—No official information has ocen received confirmatory of the report from Madrid respecting the indemnity to be demanded by the Spanish Government in the case of the Virginius, nor is it probable that any such claim will be presented, the adjustment of the questions involved having been arranged by the protocol of the representatives of the two countries.

If at any future time a bill of damages should be presented, payment would, there is good ground for stating, be refused, on the principle established by the Geneva tribunal, in the disallowance of indirect or consequential damages. Therefore, it can cermoney whatever growing out of the transactions is connection with the Virginius, even if that vessel had reached its destination and been sold by the United States for violation of law.

The preparation of the Virginius correspondence will be completed to-merrow, and may be sent to Congress on Monday next. It is represented to be voluminous.

Speaking to-day of the intelligence from Havana that the Tornado had left port, and it was generally reported that she had received orders to pursue the Edgar Stewart, and if she proved to be of the same character as the Virginius, to sink her, a gentleman high in official position said the ignorance or want of correct information on the part of the Spanish officers was never more apparent than in this instance, as it was known here that the Edgar Stewart is still at Baltimore with no immediate prospect of leaving for any port of destination,

INQUIRY INTO THE SINKING OF THE VESSEL. OFFICERS COMING FROM KEY WEST TO GIVE THEIR EVIDENCE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The following has been re-

erved from a special correspondent: KEY WEST, Fla., Jan. 2.-Capt. W. D. Wniting, Chief of he Staff of the North Atlantic Squadron ; Lieut. Adolph Marix, Flag Lieutenant, and Chief Engineer Harris of he dispatch boat Dispatch, have been summoned to Washington to testify in the investigation in regard to the sinking of the Virginius. Capt. Whiting received the Virginius, Mr. Marix brought her to the Tortugas, and Mr. Harris made the engineering survey before sh left Bahia Honda. These officers will probably leave tonorrow via Cedar Keys.

The United States steamer Franklin has arrived, ten days from Boston. She passed through two cyclones, but remained uninjured. All on board are well,

INDIAN DEPREDATIONS IN TEXAS.

THIEVING EXPEDITION BY A PARTY OF COMANCHES -SEVERAL PERSONS BRUTALLY MASSACRED-A FIGHT BETWEEN THE TROOPS AND INDIANS, IN WHICH THE LATTER RUN AWAY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.-Capt. Chas. C. Hood of he 24th Infantry, stationed at Fort McIntosh, Texas, reports to the Hendquarters of the Army that on the night of Nov. 2 a party of 40 Comanche Indians attacked Mendiolas's sheep camp, and wounded Mendiolas so badly that he was not expected to live. On Nov. 30 the same party were at San Diego, 75 miles from Corpus Christi, where they began operations by hanging seven shepherds, and left 22 persons dead in the vicinity of the ranch, among them some of the best and most respectable rancheros in that section. Proceeding due west, cavages threw two men into a well at Boryan rancho, one of whom had his neck broken by the fall On the Salado they killed a shepherd and wounded another man. A company of citizens started from Laredo in pursuit of the Indians, and gave them a bot chase; but the Indians wounded a young man named Bell and a Mexican at the Cochica ranche, and at Ben Neal's rancho they stole 80 head of horses. As there was no cavalry at the post, no force was sent to assist

First Lieut. Charles L. Hu dson of the 4th Cavalry, stationed at Fort Clark, Texas, reports that be left that post with a company of 40 men and six Seminole scouts on Dec. 4, in obedience to orders, and on Dec. 10 found Indians on the South Lelano River, and a fight ensued. The Indians stood about ten minutes, when they ran and were persued through the rocks, which were very slippery, owing to rain. The country was very unfavorable for a cavalry pursuit. Fifty-two pones and mule were captured, together with a lot of saddles, bridles, and blankets. Nine Indians were seen dead on the field. away. The men of Licut. Hudson's command behaved with great gullantry, and in some instances a great de gree of bravery was displayed. Private George Brown f Company C., 4th Cavairy, received a flesh wound it the arm. Three horses were killed and two wounded.

THE FIRE RECORD.

IN THIS CITY.

W. H. Seymour & Son, hat manufacturers, t No. 39 Crosby-st., who were burned out yesterday porning, were insured for \$6,000. The buildings were owned by the Bloodgood estate. The loss on both buildings was \$15,000; the insurance is unknown. D. Shea, tailor, in the basement of No. 427 Broome-st., had his stock insured \$12,500. F. G. Smith, agent of the Bradoury piano factory, lost \$30,000; the insurance being only \$7,500, in the Almenia of Pittsburgh and Westchester In-

surance Companies. The total loss was \$60,000. A fire on the second floor of No. 238 West Twenty second-st., in the boarding-house of George W. Tuttle last evening, caused a damage of \$200 to the furniture. The building, owned by Mr. T. Marsh, was injured to the extent of \$100. The latter loss is insured.

AN OPERA HOUSE BURNED AT WILKESBARRE.

WILKESBARRE, Penn., Jan. 2.-Frauenthal's Opera House, in this place, was destroyed last night by which was occupied by John Lynn as a restaurant. The first floor was occupied by Frauenthal as a boot and shoe store, and by Mrs. Lengfeld's dry goods and milliup as an Opera House, and a large audience was present witness the performances of a variety troupe when fast that some persons were nearly suffocated before they could get out. The utmost efforts failed to stay the progress of the fire. At 10:30 o'clock the flames burs through the roof, and at 11:30 the walls fell with a great crash. Fears were entertained that the flames would spread to the old wooden dwellings on the public square, but renewed efforts by the firemen, assis show on the housetops, prevented any further destruc-tion. Frauethal's loss is \$60,000; insured for \$10,000. Mrs. Lengfeld's loss is \$25,000; insured for \$20,000. John Lynn's

lose is \$3,000; uninsured. ELSEWHERE.

The Glenn House, Appeal office and 'several stores and shops in Paris, Mouroe County, Mo., were burned on Wednesday morning.

At upper Big Rapids, on the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, a fire yesterday destroyed the block owned by Branson, Stickney & Co., containing grocery and dry goods stores, a bank and millinery store, beside offices on the upper floors. The total less on building and contents is about \$15,000; fully insured.

THE INTEREST ON LOUISIANA STATE BONDS NOT PAID.

NEW-ORLEANS, Jan. 2 .- The interest due today on State bonds was not paid. The fiscal agent says he has not received the usual schedule from the Auditor, nor is there any money in his hands to the eredit of the

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE VILLE DU HAVRE INQUIRY. TESTIMONY OF MR. WAITE AND CAPT, ROBERTSON-CAPT. SURMONT VINDICATED FROM THE CHARGE OF COWARDICE-CAPT. ROBERTSON EXCULPATED.

LONDON, Friday, Jan. 2, 1874. During the investigation of the Ville du Havre lisaster yesterday, Mr. Waite of New-York, who was passenger on the steamship, deposed that he was escued by a French boat. The same boat afterwards rescued Capt. Surmont who was in the sea clinging to some pieces of the wreck. Mr. Waite further stated that the crew of the Loch Earn confounded the pilot of the Ville du Havre with Capt. Surmont, and it was this that gave rise to the statement that the latter's clothing was dry when he came on board the Loch Earn. The Court accepted this explanation of Mr. Waite's, and thanked him for having made it. Capt. Robertson of the Loch Earn was examined to-day. Nothing new was elicited. The witness denied that the charges against Capt. Surmont emanated from him; he declared he was incapable of taking away such a brave man's character.

Application was made for an adjournment of the proceedings until the French witnesses could attend. but it was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. Butt, on behalf of the officers of the Loch Earn, argued that the Ville du Havre was to blame; but the negligence in the steamer was probably due watch kept the three previous foggy days.

The Court unanimously decided that Capt. Robertson was blameless. LETTER FROM MR. CHAS. WATTE.

Mr. Charles Waite, whose testimony before the London Court of Inquiry is above referred to, has written to his father, Mr. C. C. Waite of this city, under date of Paris, Dec. 16. Referring to his sister, who was lest with the Ville du Havre, he says:

You ask for some message from Julia, poor, dear girl she sent none; we none of us looked for or expected an end so sudden for that noble ship; while we were stand ing on the deck we thought she would sink, but not in the short space of 12 minutes; besides, we were all hopeful of being rescued by our boats and the boats of the Loch Earn, until we went down with one awful plunge. At the last moment we all expected to ge together to the bottom of the great deep, and for that reason no one said "good-by," even. All thought their lot the same. One daughter, as you have seen, said to her mother, " It is only for a minute; then we will meet in Heaven." That was the thought of all; how could any one expect eise, thrown as we were into the deep, ocean. Had I seen Julia on the surface of the water, I would not only have brought her message but herself t you, for, as you know from my letters, I carried two darling children with me, swimming for nearly threequarters of an hour; how much more willingly would have done the same for poor Julia. My strength would have rendered me able to have carried her even to the other ship (as one husband did his wife, and, seeing her safe, sank to rise no more.) But such was not God's will. He who doeth all things well ordered it otherwise, so it was not for me to do. Although his ship lost me such a dear sister, and

caused me so much grief and pain, I don't hesitate to say that a more careful and watchful captain than Suront does not sail the seas. God bless him, poor man he suffers more than any of us who were saved. I pity

ANOTHER LETTER FROM R. A. WITTHAUS, JR. Some interesting facts concerning the closing scenes of the Ville du Havre disaster are found in a letter from Mr. Rudolph A. Witthaus, jr., to his father in this city. Mr. Witthaus, writing from

Paris, Dec. 17, says:

The newspaper accounts which you have sent are as accurate as could be expected. There are, however, many errors and contradictions. The Loch Earn was on the port tack, and standing to the northward and east ward, or in diametrically the opposite direction to that stated in most of the papers; the wind was nearer outh than west, and the steamer was struck amidship on the starboard, instead of on the port side as reported. The purses of the Ville du Havre, whose statement is given in the New-York newspapers, which also appeared in the papers here, is only the second purser or de facto the purser's clerk; he was the first man whom I saw leave the ship, by jumping overboard aft on the port side, the same place where I afterwards went over. He states that the maintast went overboard after the mizzenmast; but the fact is that the stays of the mainmast, having been cut by the bow of the Loch Earn, the mainmast which, by its connection, dragged over part of the top of the mizzenmast; it was the mainmast that crushed the boat full of persons. The second purser says "passengers." I think crew, for I was within 10 feet of where the wreck of the mizzenmast fell, and very few persons were injured by it. This second purser also accuses the passengers of being demoralized; this is a barefaced and deliberate falsehood, for a calmer and braver set of people I do not think were ever seen under the circumstances, and as very few of us have to thank the officers and men of the French steamer for brook any such statement as this, coming as it does from one who manifested his bravery by being the first civil officer and not a naval one, may have been in a measure justified in looking out for himself, but this can

THE REPUBLIC OF SPAIN. A SUCCESS OF THE BESIEGERS BEFORE CARTAGENA RUMORS OF A COUP D'ETAT BY CASTELAR. MADRID, Friday, Jan. 2, 1874.

The besiegers of Cartagena have captured by assault and burned the outlying fort of Calvarie. LONDON, Satorday, Jan. 3-6 a. m.

Special telegrams to the morning papers from Madrid intimate that Castelar will attempt a coup d'état if outvoted in the Cortes.

THE TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA AND BOK-HARA.

AMERICAN INFLUENCE IN SECURING THE ADOPTION

OF THE SLAVERY ABOLITION CLAUSE. LONDON, Saturday, Jan. 8-6 a. m.

A special dispatch to The Daily Telegraph from St. Petersburg says the article in the treaty be ween Russia and Bokhara abolishing slavery is directly the to the exertions of Secretary Schuyler and all the members of the American Legation at St. Petersburg.

FINANCIAL DISTRESS IN CUBA. INCREASE IN PRICES OF ARTICLES OF FOOD-PUBLI-CATION OF A NEWSPAPER DISCONTINUED-PRO-

JECTS OF RELIEF.

HAVANA, Jan. 2 .- The prices of bread, meat and other articles of prime necessity have advanced mensely since yesterday. The Aurora (newspaper) of Matanzas has ceased pub-

the demand of the employes to be paid in gold.

The Junta having the debt under consideration con time to discuss various projects, but do nothing to meet the financial crisis. The want of confidence in commer-

lication, the proprietors being unable to comply with

THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED. TORONTO, ONT., Jan. 2.-The Government announces the dissolution of Parliament. Write for

new election will be seened in a few days. THE TROUBLES AT MATAMOROS.

GEN. CORTINA INSTALLED AS MAYGR-A FIGHT IN THE MARKET-SQUARE-QUIET RESTORED. MATAMOROS, Mexico, Jan. 2 .- Gen. Cortina

ras installed as Mayor to-day without disturbance, the pposition giving up to him the City Government quietly. A fight occured in Market Square, growing out of th litical excitement, in which one person was killed and

na, crossed to Brownsville, Texas, to-day, fearing a dif-Beulty. The city to-night is perfectly quiet, and the me regarded as amionbly settled.

FOREIGNA NOTES. A special telegram from Berlin to The Lon-

Mr. Bancroft, the American Minister, will soon resign

Mr. Schenck, the American Minister, has re-Mr. Eliot Yorke, a Conservative, has been

returned to the British Parmament from Cambridge

Baron Reuter has written a letter to Mirza Malcolm Khan, the Persian Envoy to London, request ing to be informed what regard is due to the rumors that the Persian concession has been declared null and that the Persian concession has been declared but and void. In his reply, dated Dec. 19, the Envoy says; "I have received your letter in which you communicate to me extracts from journals relating to different rumors which have been circulated on the subject of your concession. Neither the Legation nor myself has received from our Government any advices of any kind on this subject. I authorize you to make such use of this answer as you may think proper."

THE ENGINEERS STRIKE.

AN IMPORTANT CONSULTATION. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—Considerable excite-

ment existed in the city to-day relative to the action of the railroad engineers, owing to a reduction of their wages by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Telegrams were constantly received here, inquiring as to what action had been taken in the conference reported to have been held at the Continental Hotel e-day between a delegation from the engineers and the leading officials of the Pennsylvania Road. No conference was held in which the railway officials ook part. This morning, counselors representing the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of the Councils belonging to the Western Division. Pittsburgh Division, Middle Division. Altoona and Philadelphia Division, Amboy Division, and New-York Division arrived in this three from the New-York Central Railroad was also present. The proceedings were conducted in secret. It is understood that it was decided unanimously to submit to a reduction, provided the Company will restore the old wages in three months. The Pennsylvania officials state that the strike has practically ended and that the men are resuming work an der the new rule. They say the reduction of wages has been forced at all bazards. A. Wolcott Jackson, General Superintendent of the New-York Division, was in town to-day, and left for Jersey City to-night.

RINGLEADERS AT COLUMBUS STILL HOLDING OUT. COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 2.- The striking engineers here still hold out, notwithstanding that the strike is breaking at other points. The real trouble here now is that engineers know that certain ringleaders will not be taken back into the employ of the railroad company, and so they must stick together, hoping to orce the employment of even the leaders. The railroad authorities have given notice that all who want their engines would better apply at once. The running of all regular passenger trains has transferred the excitement to the freight depot, but no outbreak has occurred. It is thought that the appointment of H. J. Jewett as seneral Manager, will allay the trouble. EFFECTS OF THE STRIKE AT PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.-Though no strike

has occurred here by the Pennsylvania Railroad employes as yet, the transportation of freight westward is greatly impeded by the blockade of the roads in the Western States owing to the strikes there. Trains of empty cars are being dispatched from West Philadelphia for points beyond Pittsburgh, but no loaded cars are eaving, and the train hands are now only working half time. Passenger trains are leaving regularly, as are also the usual freight trains for Pittsburgh and inter-WHAT THE RAILROAD AUTHORITIES SAY.

The railroad officials in this city report that the strike of engineers on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad and lines west of Pittsburgh has ceased. There is no delay in the travel over the Pennsylvania Railroad and its Western lines, all trains arrivng and departing on schedule time.

FIRE INSURANCE PROPERTY AT HARTFORD. HARTFORD, Jan. 2.-There were nine fire insurance companies in Hartford before the Chicago tire, with total assets of \$13,237,865. That fire carried down five companies, with assets of over \$2,000,000. Three new companies have been organized since, two of them to suffer loss by the Boston fire. The losses in season to suffer loss by the Boston fire. The losses paid by Hartford companies for the Chicago and Boston fires were ever \$12,000,000, and they sustained heavy losses besides. Yet the seven companies now doing business here show their assets, at the opening of the present year, to be \$12,411,938, or within \$300,000 of the assets of the nine companies before the Chicago disaster, and one of the seven has just begun business.

THE APPEAL TO PRESIDENT THOMSON. The locomotive engineers continued their work as usual yesterday on the New-York division of the Pennsylvania Central. No further m Brotherhood was held, all awaiting quietly the result of the Convention in Philadelphia. Gen. Superintend ent Jackson and Division Superintendent Barker, were both absent in Philadelphia, the latter having consented to present the protest of the engineers binnelf to Presi-dent Thomson and urge its consideration.

THE BRITTON INVESTIGATION. GOV. DIX'S DECISION DEFERRED.

ALBANY, Jan. 2.-Gov. Dix will not render a lecision in the case of District-Attorney Britton of Brooklyn until after the Legislature meets. A WEAK DEFENSE.

The following editorial article, on the argument before the Governor in the Britton investigation, is from The Brooklyn Union, the Republican organ argely owned by Mr. B. F. Tracy, counsel for Mr.

largely owned by Mr. B. F. Tracy, counsel for Mr. Britton:

The Attorney-General, although the nominal prosecutor in the Britton case, has intrusted its conduct largely to non-official counsel. The argument for the prosecution on Wednesday was made by Mr. Clinkon, who spoke to the matter of the Shanks imprisonment; Mr. Davis, who considered the Badean business, The Brooklyn Ohronicle affair, and other things; and Mr. Morris, who addressed himself mainly to the election frauds. Mr. Tracy represented the defense, giving prominence to the point that no proof of "pecuniary or other corruption on the part of Mr. Britton" had been offered. Unquestionably it is on this point that the doubts of the case hang. Everybody knows for example, that the ex-Tax Collector wrongfully withheld the interest on city deposits, and everybody feels that the failure to prosecute him therefor involved official neglect of duty. So everybody knows that there was gross ballot-box swindling a few years ago, and everybody feels that the failure to punish the swindlers was a deliberate outrage. If the law requires, beside demonstration of these facts of common knowledge, positive proof that the District-Attorney received a certain sum of money in consideration of letting the ex-Tax Collector go, or that he agreed, pursuant to a political bargain, not to push the election fraud indictments, then the law requires something that can rarely be supplied. Such transactions are not perfected on the housetops, and men of ordinary prudence spare no pains in concealing them. Had Tweed & Co. been as sagacious as they were rascally, it might not have been possible to this day to discover where the stolen millions went. Hall's tremendous official treachery is legally condoned, because he is not proved to have received any money for it, or to have made a formal contract to open the ireasury door to the thieves. Gov. Dix's decision, it is said, will be promptly rendered. It will set the dure the failure of the extension of the section of the extension of th

THREE LIBELED STEAMERS SOLD AT NEWPORT. NEWPORT, Jan. 2.—In pursuance of a decree of the United States District Court, Marshal Coggeshall sold at noon, to-day, the libeled steamers Plymouth Rock, to S. T. Lathrop of Boston, for \$41,500; Josse Hoyt, to Charles Eston of Boston, for \$99,500; and the Fall River, to S. T. Lathrop of Boston, for \$7,800. Previous to the sale, C. C. Huntington read a protest against the sale, signed by Geo. B. Upton and Benjamin Williams. trustees under a mortgage deed of the New-Jersey and Southern Railroad Company, and another protest signed by himself and Henry Alexander, trustees under a later mortgage. It is generally believed that the boats were mortgage. It is generally believed that the boats were sold in the interest of Jay Gould. The purchasers of the Plymouth Rock and Jesse Hoyt have secured good bargains, the former boat being valued at \$100,000. She was sold under the libel of Hervey C. Caikin of New-York, the Jesse Hoyt under that of Benjamin Murphy of New-York, and the Fall River under that of Pollock & Van Wagenau of New-York. The Plymouth Rock was libeled for \$40,000, the Jesse Hoyt for \$45,000, and the Fall River of \$7,000. The terms of sale were 10 per cent cash, and the remainder on delivery of the bill of sale,

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES. Joseph Gunnison, formerly proprietor of Gunni-

... As Daniel Lawrence was talking with a cleri-e affice of Brewster, Sweet & Co., Boston, bankers, yesterlay, 100 bank note was mised from his band by a neil-dramed youth, who A boiler in Menemacher's distillery, near Mil-washer, exploded Therslay afternoon. The engineer was fatally, an two others were objectly stabled. The damage dame to the distillery is chosen the Oos The new year opened with the rapid devel-

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

ON 'CHANGE.

THE JANUARY DIVIDENDS.

HOLIDAY APATHY BROKEN BY AN ADVANCE IN THE

STOCK MARKET-SEVENTY-FIVE MILLIONS OF IN-

TEREST-TWENTY-FIVE DEFAULTING RAILROADS.

pment of the buil campaign in Wall-st., which the dethora of money, the distribution of sixty or seventy millions in coupons and dividends during the next fortnight, and the certainty of continued inflation from the necessities of the Government, have combined to produce. The Vanderbill stocks continued to lead the advance, the rise being particularly marked in New-York Central and Western Union. Other leading through lines, and lines sure of a profitable business like the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western at the East, and the North-West and St. Paul at the West, advanced steadily. New-York Central shows a gain of the per cent between the day before Christmas Day and the day after New Year's; Lake Shore shows about the same. St. Paul shows a gain of nearly 4 per cent; North-West of about the same; Western Union of nearly 3, &c.
Mail has also profited by the and, indeed, it has been tolerably evenly distributed over the entire list of first and second-rate stocks. There is a general inquiry, also, for good ratiroad bonds, and an advance in the prices of several of them. North-Western bonds are stimulated by the reports of pur-

chases in England. The bulls count confidently on a lively time during January, relying first upon the abundance of money seeking investment, next upon the certainty that the \$44,000,000 inflation cannot be withdrawn, and equally upon a third point, to wit, the more railroads since management of the the panie, and consequent increase in their net earnings. If there are any bears, or if the bears, being found to exist, have any definite plan of campaign, it has not yet been heard in the busy and confident air of Wali-st. it January, 1874.

The Committee on Admissions of the Stock Exchange reported favorably, yesterday, to the reinstatement, in their rights as members, of Mr. Hatch of the firm of Fisk & Hatch, and Mr. Curry, who had been among the

The January interest and dividends, the payment of which was begun yesterday, will aggregate nearly \$75,000,000. Of this the Government will pay \$25,733,279 gold interest on various bonds, \$1,938,705 currency interest on the Pacific Railway second mortgage bonds, and \$11,500,000 in redemption of 1874 bonds, though a portion of these will be exchanged for the new Fives. The interest on State and City bonds is a large sum, and the January coupons on various railway bonds represent many millions of dollars. Fisk & Hatch pay out \$1,143,600 gold on account of the Central Pacific, the Western Pacific, and the California and Oregon Railways; Morton, Bliss & Co. pay \$817,110 on Union Pacific bonds; Drexel, Morgan & Co., \$438,000; M. K. Jesup & Co., \$190,000, and Winslow, Lanier & Co., \$1,650,000 on us miscellaneous bonds. The Reading Railroad pays \$2,250,000, interest and dividends; Lake Shore \$875,000 interest; |Rock Island, \$315,000; Atlantic and Great Western, \$315,000; Baltimore and Ohio, \$249.000; Atlantic and Pacific, \$210,000; Missouri Pacific, \$105,000, and California Pacific, \$300,000. These are only a small part of the payments to be made during the present month

by large corporations.

The various institutions at which coupons twere redeemed presented an animated appearance yesterday. Clerks and cashiers were kept busy from the opening to the close of business hours, and the sums disbursed were very large. The number of defaulting roads was much smaller than had been expected, and the fact that they would default on their January interest had been previously announced with the reasons, except in the cases of a few unimportant ones. Of the seventeen companies whose coupons are redeemed at the Farmers' Lean and Trust Company's office tonly two failed to provide the necessary funds-the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw. and Missouri River, Fort Scott and Gulf. [These will both fund their coupons, and the former has already

The St. Louis and South-Eastern Railway, whose coupons are payable by George Opdyke & Co., have defaulted on the interest on \$100,000 first mortgage bonds, This road is represented as in a prosperous condition, but is suffering, like many others, from the temperary scarcity of money. The Company have made arrange ments for paying the November interest about the middle of the present month, and the January interest some their engagements as they fall due. The Canada Sc ern and Chicago and Canada Southern roads have made arrangements for funding the coupons falling due in January, 1874, July, 1874, and January, 1875, as was fully

TRIBUNE a few days ago. The entire number of railroads in default is more than 115, representing an indebtedness on interest account of in THE TRIBUNE from time to time. The following are the new defaults of the present month. The following table is taken from the advance sheets of an article care fully prepared for The Commercial and Financial Chronicle by Charles, W. Hassier, a broker in railway bonds at

No. 7 Wall-st.: South Side—
1st pref. consol. mortgage. 133
2d pref. consol. mortgage. 133
3d pref. consol. mortgage. 133
Virginia & Tennessee—
Enlarged mortgage. 224
4th mortgage. 214
Registered certificates. 214
Registered certificates. 214
Registered refificates. 214
Ligerest funding bonds. 24
Auchton, To. & Santa Fe—
1st mortgage. 470

Detroit, Eel River and Ind. — 65 300,000 8 Philadel. . 83 1,826,000 8 New-York. 334 8,000,000 7 g. New-York. 75 2,250,000 7g. New York. 68 1,500,000 7 New-York Northern Pacific—

1st mortegge land grant.... 550 30,000,000 7:30 N. Y. & P.

81. Paul & Pacific—

1st M. St. Paul to Sank Rapids 80 700,000 7 New-lark.

81. Louis & Southeastera—

Kranarille, H. & Realtera—

Toleco, D. & Cas. Southera—

1500-000 7 New-Tork.

nortenge...... 64 1,750,000 7 Philadel. A GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION IN MICHIGAN. DETROIT, Jan. 2 .- About 4 o'clock this after-2000, the grovery store of George Alderton, at Saginaw City, Mich., was completely demolished by an explosion of gunpowder. A little daughter of Mr. Alderton, age 4, was instantly killed; Mrs. Alderton was badly burned, but will probably recover. A clock named Williams was also severely in-jured. The accident is supposed to have been caused by the little girl's putting lighted matches in a can con-taining nearly ten pounds of gunpowder.

..... 65 1,500,000 7 New-York.

ALBANY CROWDED WITH OFFICE-SEEKERS. ALBAYY, Jan. 2 .- All the hotels are crowded with persons seeking the positions in the gift of the in-oming Legislature. A number of members also are here and many more are expected to-morrow. There never were so many office-seekers here before. All the newly-elected State officials entered to-day upon the dis-

THE BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

At the Brooklyn Navy-Yard the force will e reduced, it is said, to 1,600 men. The monitor Rouneke will be ready to go into commission on Jan. 15. The Arapiles was released yesterday from her long confinement, but she rar aground soon after leaving the dock.